

Remarks

Rejections Under 35 USC 102:

Claims 1, 2-7, 9, 11-15, 17, 19, and 20 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Johnson.

The Applicant's claimed invention provides for a method and apparatus for determining an end to a user's input. In order to ensure that all inputs are collected before inferring the user's intent, a multi-modal input fusion (MMIF) module receives the user input and attempts to fill multiple templates. The MMIF module will wait for further modality inputs if no MMI template is filled. However, if any template within the database is filled completely, the MMIF module will generate a semantic representation of the user's input with the current collection of user inputs.

With the above in mind, all of the Applicant's claims have the limitations of accessing a plurality of templates from a database and determining if all inputs received from the user fill any templates from the database. Analysis of the prior art reveal that this limitation is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Examiner Saint Cyr states that this limitation can be found in paragraphs 35 and 57 of Johnson, however analysis of these sections reveals that at most, Johnson teaches the filling of a single template. Johnson fails to teach or otherwise suggest that a plurality of templates are accessed and determining if all inputs received fill any template. Because of this, all claims are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 103(a):

Claims 2, 10, and 18 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson. Because these claims depend from allowable base claims, claims 2, 10, and 18 are allowable over the prior art of record.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references. As the Applicant has overcome all substantive rejections given by the

Examiner the Applicant contends that this Amendment, with the above discussion, overcomes the Examiner's rejections to the pending claims. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any issues regarding the status of the claims remain after this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative to expedite resolution of the matter. Finally, please charge any fees (including extension of time fees) or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502117.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gupta, ET AL.

by: 

Kenneth A. Haas
Reg. No. 42,614
Phone: (847) 576-6937
FAX: (847) 576-3750